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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

OF THE

TOWN OF MONT VERNON,

TOGETHER WITH THE

SCHOOL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

March 1, 1885.

NASHUA, N. H.:
B. B. & F. P. WHITTEMORE, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.
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SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The selectmen respectfully present to the town of Mont Vernon, their annual report of the receipts and expenditures, for the year ending March 1st, 1885:

RECEIPTS.

Balance in the treasury, March 1st, 1884,	$1,670 61	
Amount of taxes assessed,	3,874 35	
Interest on taxes,	10 57	
		$5,555 53

RECEIVED FROM STATE.

Savings bank tax,	$798 09	
Railroad tax,	19 84	
Literary fund,	52 64	
Bounty on woodchucks,	34 10	
		$904 67

MISCELLANEOUS.

From county,	$12 00	
License on pool table,	9 50	
Rent of tramp house,	50	
		$22 00
Whole amount of receipts,		$6,482 20

EXPENDITURES.

Paid State tax,	$688 00	
County tax,	500 86	
		$1,188 8-

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Paid Center district,	$306 42	
South district,	111 40	
East district,	103 17	
North district,	98 07	
West district,	81 59	
Amherst district,	15 96	
		$716 61
Paid McCollom Institute,	$300 00	
East district school house tax,	44 74	
South " " " "	427 49	
		$772 23

SUPPORT OF HIGHWAYS.

	Summer.	Winter.	
Paid District No. 1,	$34 00	$4 50	
District No 2,	19 11	14 81	
District No. 3,	27 16	15 13	
District No. 4,	32 13	18 07	
District No. 5,	27 60	39 30	
District No. 6,	22 80	18 02	
District No. 7,	21 51	3 23	
District No. 8,	24 90	27 13	
District No. 9,	27 72	12 60	
District No. 10,	33 88	25 20	
District No. 11,	52 27	21 12	
District No. 12,	30 50	22 74	
District No. 13,	36 00	55 85	
District No 14,	48 50	10 70	
District No. 15,	29 40	25 73	
District No. 16,	29 72	34 88	
	$497 20	$349 01	
			$846 21

STEVENS ROAD.

Paid Judge Cross, counsel for town,	$100 00
For land damage,	185 00
For building one hundred and seventy rods of road,	269 33

For cost of laying out road,	48 56	
For advertising,	33	
		$603 22

CEMETERY.

Paid for re-setting gravestones,	15 08	
For material,	2 25	
For mowing and cutting bushes,	5 00	
For survey of new yard,	2 00	
For repairing and painting hearse,	25 00	
For sexton's services,	23 75	
For tolling bell,	3 50	
		$76 58

SUPPORT OF POOR.

Paid for the support of W. H. Brown, at county farm, from Jan. 1st, 1884, to Sept. 15th, 1884,	$60 78	
For the support of S. C. Langdell, from Jan. 1st, 1884, to Apr. 22d, 1884,	32 00	
A. Carson, for board of Langdell,	1 00	
For relief of A. Northrop,	12 00	
For expenses on account of poor,	6 80	
		$112 58

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Paid for abatements for 1883,	$8 46	
Mrs. William Bruce, overtax,	18 22	
		$26 68

MISCELLANEOUS.

Paid for two copies of the history of Amherst,	$8 00	
For guide boards,	5 00	
For printing town reports in 1883,	18 00	
J. H. Tarbell, for breaking roads in 1883,	7 70	
Clark Campbell, extra labor breaking roads, 1884,	3 00	
For collector's and surveyor's books,	3 00	

Paid Judge Cross, counsel in case, Nashua vs. Mont Vernon,	140 00	
Interest on McCollom Institute note to Oct. 7th, 1884,	15 00	
For interest on J. Upton note, 1884,	10 00	
For repairs on road machine,	17 35	
For reporting births and deaths,	8 00	
For express for 1883,	50	
For town warrants,	48	
For railing in town hall,	2 50	
For housing road machine,	1 50	
Discount on taxes,	91 07	
For books for indigent children,	2 16	
Bounties on woodchucks,	34 10	
		$367 36

TOWN OFFICERS' SERVICES.

Paid J. W. Carson, selectman,	$49 00	
F. O. Lamson, "	29 00	
J. W. Averill, "	31 00	
Ira Hill, constable,	2 00	
Clark Campbell, moderator,	4 00	
Clark Campbell, treasurer,	20 00	
Dr. Frederic Chandler, clerk,	20 00	
C. H. Raymond, collector,	40 00	
John M. Fox, supervisor,	4 00	
John W. Raymond, "	3 00	
Geo. C. Hadley, "	3 00	
C. J. Smith, superintendent of schools,	33 00	
John Trevett, auditor, '83 and '84,	3 00	
		$241 00

TOWN LIABILITIES.

Notes against the town with interest, to March 1st, 1885.

A. S. Bruce, note,	$445 29	
A. W. Raymond, note,	412 05	
McCollom Institute, note,	307 56	
A. W. Raymoud, note,	135 43	
Arn Campbell, note,	344 89	
James Upton, note,	200 00	
		$1845 22

Due on South District school tax,	$75 96	
Due Center District School tax,	11 61	
Due East District School tax,	3 83	
Due West District School tax,	16 65	
		$108 05
		$1,953 27
Whole amount of receipts,	$6,482 20	
Whole amount of bills paid,	4,951 33	
Balance in the treasury,		$1,530 87
Indebtedness of the town,		$422 40

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. CARSON,
F. O. LAMSON,
J. W. AVERILL,
Selectmen of Mont Vernon.

I have this day examined the above report and find the same correctly cast and properly vouched.

JOHN TREVITT, *Auditor.*

Feb. 25, 1885.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The treasurer of the town of Mont Vernon, submits the following report for the year ending March 1st, 1885.

March 1st, 1884,		
To cash in treasurer's hands,	$1,293 83	
Uncollected taxes for 1873,		$39 10
" " " 1882,		17 68
" " " 1883,		320 00
" " " 1884,		547 00
Cash received on billiard table,		9 50
Cash received rent on tramp house,		50
Cash received, interest on taxes,		10 57
Cash received from county,		12 00
Cash received from State on banks, railroads, &c.,		870 57
Cash received from State, bounty on woodchucks,		34 10
Cash received from collector, for 1884,		3,327 35
		$6,482 20

Cr.

By paying State tax,	$688 00	
By paying county tax,	500 86	
Uncollected taxes for 1873,	39 10	
" " " 1882,	17 68	
" " " 1883,	12 00	
" " " 1884,	547 00	
By paying 103 orders of selectmen,	3.762 47	
		$5,567 11
Whole amount of receipts,	$6,482 20	
Whole amount of bills paid,	5,567 11	
Balance in treasury,	$915 09	

FINANCIAL CONDITION OF TOWN.

Liabilities,	$1,953 27
Uncollected taxes and money in treasury,	1,530 87
Balance against the town,	$422 40

CLARK CAMPBELL,
Town Treasurer.

I have this day examined the above report, and find the same correctly cast and properly vouched.

JOHN TREVITT, *Auditor.*

Feb. 25th, 1885.

SCHOOL REPORT.

To the Citizens of Mont Vernon:

In presenting my annual report, I am gratified to be able to commend the skill and fidelity of those in charge of our schools the past year. And this without exception. Our district schools are essentially primary schools and must so remain awhile. McCollom Institute serves the town as a Grammar and High school. A considerable number of pupils from 12 to 14 years of age, leave the common school for the Institute. The result is that the older boys and girls remaining lack companionship and very slight hindrances suffice to keep them from school.

It is a fact that our youth withdraw from school at an earlier age than formerly, which is a mistaken fashion. Forty years since more than 150 scholars attended our district schools, now considerably less than two thirds that number. Then the town numbered between 700 and 800 inhabitants. The census of 1880, reported its population as 521. In 1844, $500.00 was the amount raised by the town for common schools. In 1884, including the $300. voted to the Institute, $1.125 was expended by the town for public instruction. The entire number of pupils participating in the educational fund of the town the last year, was 104.—Thus each scholar in town has received more than twice as much in 1884 as did the scholar in 1844. The force of this contrast is in part abated by the increased expenses of living and the diminished value of the dollar.

But in its generous outlay for schools, I am confident Mont Veruon would not suffer in comparison with other towns in the county. Cheshire occupies the front rank of New Hampshire

counties in its care and interest for its schools. Iu 1880, the average amount expended for each scholar in that county, was $7.60. only four of its twenty-three towns expended over $9.00. Mont Vernon expended the current year an average of $10.82 for each resident scholar taught, either at the Institute, or in its districts.

Our primary schools require teachers of thorough scholarship, not less than those of higher grade. They should be qualified not only to teach elementary things correctly, but to awaken ideas, to quicken all the child's faculties. A close observer, and one familiar with the natural history of the neighborhood, is to be preferred, as more apt at object teaching. To be a model teacher of little children, involves a rare union of qualities and attainments.

Only a single change has been made in text books during the year. "Barnes' New National Readers" are being introduced in place of the old "Franklin Series," which has been in our schools some twelve years. The subject of a change had been under consideration for two years. In deciding upon a particular series, the committee was perplexed by the general excellence of the various Readers submitted for examination.

CENTER SCHOOL.

JAY M. GLEASON, PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

Miss C. E. Cochran, of Francestown, agreeably to a vote of the district, was employed for the spring term. She conducted the school with her usual success, accomplishing the best results with each individual scholar. At the close of the term, much to the regret of the district, she accepted a call to a more profitable and permanent school, elsewhere. She had taught here four successive terms, and the community had learned to place a high value upon her work as an educator. Miss Anna Shattuck, of Groton, Mass,, a teacher cf considerable experience, taught the Fall term. She suffered from ill health while here, and on this account her work was not as satisfactory, either to herself or the district, as it might otherwise have been. She was conscientiously faithful and very thorough in her knowledge of all the branches taughf. The committee regards the term as a profitable one,

and the exhibit of proficiency at the close, very creditable to the methods of the teacher.

Miss Addie E. Gould, of Antrim, had charge of the Winter term. Miss G. was trained in a Normal school, and has taught much and successfully. Her school made good progress, especially marked in writing and reading. Her excellent supervision of her pupils during recess and while about the building, when the school was not in session, has not been equalled in this district. It is manifest that the large majority of the parents furnishing pupils, will favor her continuance here another year.

SOUTH SCHOOL.

H. A. HUTCHINSON, PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

Miss Emma F. Trow, of Mont Vernon, who taught here the last Winter term, has been employed through the year. The Spring term closing June 14th, was kept in the old house. The new school house not being ready for occupancy, the commencement of the Fall term was delayed until Nov. 3rd. This progressed until in its seventh week, it was abruptly closed, Dec. 24, the occasion being the presence of scarlet fever in the district. The school was again re-opened, Feb. 15th, and is now in a prosperous session. Miss F. is now in her fourth term of continuous service here. In teaching and managing her school, she has justified the opinion expressed in my last report; as a teacher of Arithmetic she especially excels.

The event of the year in this district was the dedication of its new school house, on the evening of June 17th. The occasion was one of much interest, and pleasure to an assembly of about 300 persons. The principal exercises were vocal and instrumental music; a historical address by the superintendent; a poem by Mrs. E. D. Simpson, and "School Reminiscences" by L. B. Hutchinson; the two latter now of New York, but natives of the South district. A bountiful supper and a social dance, concluded the dedicatory exercises.

The new structure is a handsome edifice, 26 ft. deep by 36 wide, and occupies a site a little northeast from the former house. Some former pupils in the district contributed handsomely towards its erection. Messrs. L. B. Hutchinson and C. M. Kit-

tredge and Mrs. E. D. Simpson, of New York, and Stephen Carlton Coburn, Esq., of Milford, from 1830 to 1840 a pupil here, has donated to the school a copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary. With a new building well adapted to its needs and well furnished, the South district school house would seem to be equipped for a future as useful and honorable as has been its record in the past.

EAST SCHOOL.

J. N. M'QUESTION, PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

Miss Lucie S. Stiles, the faithful and accomplished teacher of last year, taught the Summer and had proceeded to the seventh week of the Fall term, when the fatal illness of her mother compelled her to relinquish it. So well known is Miss S., and so highly valued as a teacher here that any words of commendation would be superfluous. Miss Nettie C. Marden, of New Boston, a teacher of good repute, was employed 4 weeks to carry out the unfinished Winter term. I was absent from town and did not receive notice of the close of the school. I learn that the teacher was universally liked, as her reputation as a valuable teacher warranted.

NORTH SCHOOL.

WM. H. MARVELL, PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

Miss S. Eliza Atkinson, of Amherst, teacher both Summer and Fall terms. This teacher's first effort, and it was a very successful one. She is ambitious to become a good teacher, and she is endowed with faculty for the vocation. The district quickly understood this and approved without a dissenting voice.—Rarely does a young teacher win so deserved credit in her first trial. Her work was admirably performed in instruction, discipline, and in all the minutiæ of school labor.

WEST SCHOOL.

HARVEY STEARNS, PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

Miss Eunice A. Fox, of Mont Vernon, taught Summer and Fall terms. This was her first experience in teaching. What has been said of the teacher of the North school, applies equally to

Miss F. She is a young lady of model deportment and high aims. She has the preparation that a thorough course of study at the Institute furnished. Her work was as it should have been very acceptable to the district. Called to teach in an adjoining district, in New Boston, in the Winter, several of her pupils wisely availed themselves of the opportunity to continue under her instruction, by becoming tuition scholars there. Should she pursue teaching she cannot fail of notable success.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Names of pupils who have been present every half day any one term without being tardy:

Center District.—Minnie O. Wallace, Sadie Manning, Fred A. Wright, George C. Boutelle, Charles B. Winters, Fred Winters, Willis Johnson, Robert T. Bruce, Ernest M. Gleason, Alice T. Bruce, Francena Campbell, Nellie M. Ryan, Arthur F. Campbell, one term each, and George F. Johnson, two terms.

South District.—Bertie F. Trow, Harry O. Bullard, Amy V. Hutchinson, Hattie M. Richardson, Jessie A. Trow, Clara E. Dodge and Fannie M. Wilkins, one term each.

East District.—Eugene V. Damon, May McQuestion, Carrie B. Johnson, one term.

North District.—Josie L. Marvell, 2 terms.

West District.—Rufus G. Averill, John F. Upton, two terms; Lizzie A. Stearns, Hannah J. Averill, one term.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

DISTRICT.	Summer, Fall and Winter.	NAMES OF TEACHERS.	Length of school in weeks.	Number of pupils.	Boys.	Girls.	Average attendance.	Wages of teachers.	Visits by Superintendent.	Visits by Prudential Committee.	Visits by citizens.
	S	Miss Carrie M. Cochran	9-5	21	11	10	20	$34 00	2	2	38
CENTER	F	Miss Anna Shattuck	9	26	13	14	24	32 00	3	1	53
	W	Miss Addie E. Gould	12	33	20	12	26	34 00	2	1	60
	S	Miss Emma F. Trow	10	20	11	10	18-5	24 00	2	2	37
SOUTH	F	Miss Emma F. Trow	6-6	19	9	9	16	24 00	1	1	13
	W	Miss Emma F. Trow									
	S	Miss Lucie S. Stiles	8	13	8	5	13	20 00	2	0	9
EAST	F	Miss Lucie S. Stiles and Miss Nettie C. Marden	10	14	9	5	11	22 00 24 00	1	0	11
NORTH	S	Miss S. Eliza Atkinson	10	8	3	5	9-2	20 00	2	2	21
	F	Miss S. Eliza Atkinson	9	10	5	5	9-9	24 00	2	1	13
WEST	S	Miss Eunice A. Fox	9	5	3	2	4	18 00	2	1	11
	F	Miss Eunice A. Fox	8	5	3	2	2	20 00	0	1	12

Amount of money raised by town, including Literary Fund and tax on dogs,		$824 86
Literary Fund,		70 00
Amount allotted Center District,	$318 03	
Amount allotted South District,	187 36	
Amount allotted East District,	107 18	
Amount allotted North District,	98 07	
Amount allotted West District,	98 26	
Amount allotted 8th Amherst District,	15 96	

CHAS. J. SMITH,
Superintendent of Schools.

Mont Vernon, N. H., March 2nd, 1885.